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petent historian would undertake to show by examples how nearly this prediction has been fulfilled."

He also contributed a paper to the Congress of Jurisprudence and Law Reform on "American Progress in Jurisprudence." No better a summary has recently appeared of the contributions made by the United States to the improvement of law both national and international. Though loving and honoring all other nations, he was an American of the truest type and spoke with the deepest appreciation of what his country had done for the advancement of civilization. In this paper he said: "The United States have also done more than any other nation toward making international arbitration a maxim of public policy and an article of public law. Within the present century there have been at least fifty-eight (the actual number is nearly eighty [Ed.] instances of arbitration between nations, in thirty-five of which the United States were parties."

Mr. Field's work will not cease with his death, but will go on deepening and widening, and he will be enrolled as one of the truest promoters not only of a better law but also of a better feeling and of better and more humane relations between the nations of the world.

THE PROPOSED TRUCE.

In face of the enormous and ever-developing armaments of Europe, the question has often come to every thoughtful man: "What can be done practically to stay the evil and finally to remove it?" If it goes on it must lead ultimately not only to financial ruin but also to such a bloody convulsion as the world has never seen. Shall we stand by and see the awful avalanche slowly accumulating and gathering strength for its final death-plunge, or shall we seek to check its growth and then slowly melt it away? What shall be done? Where shall one begin? Who will take the initiative? It is evident that these questions are now being asked with a great depth of earnestness and with a sort of hopeful despair, if one may use the expression, which indicate that some practical means of procedure may soon be discovered.

It is possible, and we are inclined to think probable, that a really wise and practical way of approaching the delicate problem has been discovered in the proposed truce till the year 1900 put forward by Mr. Jules Simon, and supported by Senator Marcoartu of Spain and by the Marquis Pandolfi of Italy. The seriousness of the feeling on the subject is evidenced by the fact that a similar proposition for a truce of ten years has been made by Mr. Anspach of Brussels, even before Mr. Simon's proposal; and by the additional propositions of Mr. Blowitz, Paris Correspondent of the *London Times*, for a reduction of the time of military service to one year, and of Dr. Grelling of Berlin that the European States should pledge themselves not to increase their armaments any more for a period of three years.

The proposition for a truce has been taken up by the International Peace Bureau on the initiative of the International Arbitration and Peace Association of London, and a circular letter addressed to all the peace societies of the world asking whether they favor the idea and if, so, in what manner the Governments shall be approached in order to induce them to hold a conference on the subject. So far as we know the societies are all strongly favoring the idea of a truce, on the ground that it will not only stop, in all probability, the further growth of armaments, but that it will almost certainly result in a practical scheme for disarmament. The International Peace Bureau, which has already been officially recognized by both Switzerland and Denmark, will soon draw up, as the societies shall indicate, some plan for inducing the Governments to enter into some such truce as is proposed, by which they shall pledge themselves not to go to war for a specified number of years, and not to increase their armaments during this period.

We do not see how any European Government can find any valid reason for not entering by treaty into such an arrangement. On the contrary, there is every reason why they should all do so. If it shall be entered into conjointly by all of them, no one will gain any advantage over another.

If any nation should refuse to consider favorably a proposition for such a truce, it would be almost demonstrative evidence that its professions of a desire for peace were false and that its real wish was for war.

International co-operation is becoming increasingly common, and such an exhibition of it would be worthy of the great nations of to-day whose ships are hailing each other on every sea, and whose life, commercial, intellectual, religious, is interlocked on every shore. Such a truce, in addition to its direct effects in checking the growth of militarism, would be of inestimable value in promoting this international co-operation on which hereafter all the best interests of the world so much depend.

If the Interparliamentary Peace Union, which is now nearly as large in membership as any single national parliament, would undertake to secure a hearing for the proposed truce before the separate parliaments, it is not at all unlikely that a Conference of the Governments could be speedily arranged to prepare the details of the truce.

Following the example set by the Swiss Federal Council, the Danish Chamber of Deputies has recently, by a large majority, voted a subsidy of about seven hundred francs to the International Peace Bureau. The sum of money is small, but the vote is full of meaning. The voting of support to a peace bureau is a new thing in the acts of parliaments. We congratulate our indefatigable friend, Mr. Bajer, on the position which his country is thus taking in the peace movement.